



ARENA REPORT



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Hello again everyone. Hope you are all enjoying your summer. Time for another issue of "AR". In this issue we have the second part of the Eddy Mansfield interview. We also have a live WWF report from Orlando which took place on 8/3. Evan Ginzburg gives us his insight into the WCW Bash at the Meadowslands. Scott Hudson will fill us all in on the Global Tag Tourney in his Journal or GWF review. Mike Terry throws his 2-cents at us again and Mike Lano joins us with another guest column looking at numerous items. We should have news from the Titan tapings that were held on 7/29 & 7/30. That can be found in "Ramblings".

The next issue of "AR" will be cover dated 8/19. IMPORTANT NOTE: The next publishing date after that is skedded to be 9/2 but since I'll be in Connecticut that weekend we'll come right back at you with another issue on 8/26 so we'll have a back to back issue two weeks in a row. So if you have a "1" on your label, renew now so you won't miss that 8/26 issue. The next issue will have a live report on the IWF's first house show taking place at the Fairgrounds in Orlando on 8/7. Scott Hudson will have a look at the Global North American title tourney. Klon takes an objective view at the IWF since he went to the tapings held on 7/27. And Marianne comes back with her lot comments as well.

Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. All renewals, letters, and results may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547. A number appears on your label indicating how many issues you have remaining. A special thanks to all that contribute to this sheet and to all of you, thanks for reading. Let's go to the second part of our interview with the "Continental Lover".

EDDY MANSFIELD INTERVIEW Part 2

- RL- One last thing about the 20/20 show, was there any tie in between what Big Jim Wilson and Thunderbolt Patterson claimed or were they just riding your bandwagon?
- EM- Well they were just riding on my coat tails. I really don't like Thunderbolt Patterson period. Because he's not good for the business. He's a racist. You shouldn't be a racist in any walk of life.
- RL- What is your opinion on...
- EM- Wait a minute. I want to finish before I was rudely interrupted. (Heh,heh) On Thunderbolt Patterson. Thunderbolt Patterson had more breaks in this business than any body in the world. And he wanted to cry and moan about it. As far as I'm concerned, Thunderbolt Patterson doesn't have a leg to stand on. I mean, he's had the opportunity. He's screamed racism, black this, black that, and they gave him the opportunity but he couldn't do nothing with it. End of sentence. And Jim Wilson never was there.
- RL- What's your opinion in general on wrestling newsletters?
- EM- Well you guys have exposed the business a hell of alot more than I've ever done.
- RL- We weren't around back then. (Laughs)
- EM- Oh yeah you were. Meltzer was trying to kick his little piece of shit paper off. And you know, Dave Meltzer, I want to make this comment and please print it. Dave Meltzer has exposed the business more than Vince McMahon, Dusty Rhodes, or myself ever could and ever would. He exposes it on a weekly basis. And the downfall of wrestling is accumulated from newsletters like a Dave Meltzer. And I don't have a hard on towards Dave Meltzer but when he talks about me doing something, he should also talk about himself and Vince McMahon and Dusty Rhodes in the same sentence that he utters a 20/20 out of his damn mouth or on his pen. Because he has done more to chastise the wrrestling industry or bring it down in other words than anybody. And he exposes it on a weekly basis. You know there's an old saying. You should sweep around your own back door before you start sweeping around someone elses.
- RL- Speaking of Dave Meltzer, a few issues ago in the Observer he stated that you were once the most hated man in wrestling. I know that bothered you.

EM- No, I was the #6 most hated man in wrestling at the time. No, it didn't bother me because wrestlers didn't hate me, promoters hated me. Because #1, I am one of the best workers in the business. To this day, right now. And you've seen what I can do. And if I wanted to work, I could work. But I don't want to work anymore. You know I think that I'm building something here that is going to last and it's got a lot of heart to it. You know, you've got to overcome adversity in any industry you do and you can take the negative and turn it into a positive and that's what we've tried to do. Establish a real positive outlook here in the IWF and I hope it continues.

RL- What did you do between 1985 when you got out of the business and last October?

EM- I produced TV commercials and some television shows and I really learned the ins and outs of television production. On my first show (IWF) I was kind of pissed off at my lighting and stuff but you know I'm a perfectionist and as you see, my second, third and fourth are great shows. They will continue to get better. But that's what I did. I learned the inside and outs of the movie business and television industry in New York. We lived in the upper east side. And that's what I did. You know, where a lot of wrestlers would just roll over and die, Eddy Mansfield doesn't just roll over and die. I'm on fire man. And it doesn't matter to me. You can take this away from me tomorrow and I'll find something to do.

RL- When you opened your school in October last year, first, why did you pick Orlando? Second, did you have any plans at that time of starting your own organization?

EM- Yeah, there was a motive behind the madness. The motive was that I had the tie in with Universal Studios. And what I wanted to do was create my own talent. When people say marquee names... What are marquee names? Marquee names are only what television makes them. If television makes guys work the way I saw WCW on the worst pay-per-view I've ever seen in my life, I don't want marquee names. Please don't give me those guys. From a working standpoint, I was very disappointed in that. When you see in four weeks, my guys are marquee. And my guys look a hell of a lot better than a lot of guys in this business. They're going to be stars and that's the power of television. That once they're on and people start to like them and enjoy what is going on, there are going to be passes in seats in arenas all over this country.

RL- You mentioned WCW. What are your thoughts on WCW firing Ric Flair?

EM- That's the worst move that WCW could have ever made in the history of that organization. Number 1, I personally like Ric Flair. Ric Flair is one of the best human beings ever been in professional wrestling. Number 2, Ricky Flair is a mind.... WCW, the only time it ever made money, was when Ric Flair was there. And you see what happens when Ric Flair is not there. Ric Flair to me has got one of the best minds in this industry. When he was in WCW offices things seemed to be different than they are now. A hell of a lot more difference. That was the stupidest move from a business standpoint. There are other ways they could have done things.

RL- Your first project I guess was trying to do a combination with the PWF back in March. Why didn't that work?

EM- Well it's kind of hard to put a glue horse back together. To me it was in shambles. Then, you know, Dusty Rhodes has killed the territory here. And that's what was told to me through Steve Keirn. Because I wasn't here at the time, I was in New York. It was just in too many shambles. When we tried to run under the PWF banner, it just didn't work. It was really a dead issue. It's hard to bring back a dead issue. It's kind of like 20/20. 20/20 is a dead issue and when you rehash it, it's really dead. It's meaningless compared to what has happened since that show. It's like the comme you made to me that if someone else went on 20/20 now or even myself for instance, if I had a, for some ungodly reason, I don't know why I'd do it again but it wouldn't have the impact compared to when I did it. I'm kind of a visionary type person. When I tell you things and it's kind of strange it'll come to pass. It's like, "Oh your going to base the IWF out of Universal Studios, sound stage 23, yeah right Eddy." But hey, just sit on your ass and wait a minute and it'll happen. The deal with USF sound stage 23. It's unique, creative, and it works. If other people in other places would have the vision of sitting down and not worrying about themselves or worried about other things but the business at hand, the wrestling business would be good and it's like with Vince McMahon. Vince McMahon, love him or hate him, it doesn't matter. The guy's got the best production going. I hope the IWF and I know it will, will have the production values of the WWF in the weeks to come. I'm really excited about what's happening here in the state of Florida and the response we've had from all over the nation. That's the way it goes man. Right to the top.

RL- You mentioned the response you've had. How do you think things are going since you launched the IWF? I know that the response has been tremendous from parts of the country that we didn't even know were seeing the show.

EM- It's amazing. It's amazing what the power of TV does. And what is so funny is that they told me that I could never do it. It's not only me. People say, "Well, it's Eddy Mansfield." Well, it's not Eddy Mansfield. We have one hell of a team here. You know, it's not just Eddie DeBartalo (sp) that wins the Super Bowl. But he puts the team together. That's what I've done here. I've constructed a real good team with my board of directors and myself. And I've got one of the greatest attorneys in the world, Chris Qualmann who is the president of the FMPA here in the state of Florida. He's a real backbone of this organization too. Plus being a student of the game you might want to say, he's also a student of the law. He protects everything and all my concerns and the IWF's concerns and makes life a lot easier for old Eddy.

RL- What are your future plans for the IWF?

EM- Just to keep it going up, up, up. You know, I'm not interested with competing with anybody. It's a free enterprise system. Burger King doesn't worry about McDonalds and vice versa. They really don't need to because it's like me. I don't worry about what Vince McMahon does or WCW does. I'm worried about myself. It's like I made a statement earlier in this interview that I have enough trouble sweeping under my own back door. I don't have time to sweep someone else's. I have enough to keep me busy.

RL- Anything you regret in your career that you could go back and do over?

EM- Regret in my career. What, besides getting started? The only thing in my career that I regret is that I got tendinitis when I was pitching pro baseball. That's the only regret I have. As far as the wrestling business, there's only one regret that I could ever say. That I ever met Ole Anderson or Jim Barnett. They are the two biggest scumbags in the whole world. They've been more detrimental to people's careers than you would ever know. And if they don't like it, then they don't like the truth. Because the truth, whooo, it'll make you squall man.

RL- Any closing comments? Anything you want to say to the people reading this?

EM- Yeah, the people reading this, just watch the IWF and enjoy it, and support my guys because we got a great bunch of superstars here and one day they are going to be, you never know. The next Hulk Hogan or the next Ricky Flair. But we have a tremendous talent here in the IWF that's been nurtured and developed and I'll tell you, they've got bodies like Greek gods and they can really get up and down and that's the name of the game. IWF is going to the mountain top. As I say, we're headed to the promised land.

RL- Thanks a lot Eddy.

EM- You got it Ron.

RAMBLINGS

Lots of rumblings going on in Atlanta. It's almost assured that Dusty will be history within the next few weeks. They've already interviewed this past week. They did meet with Bill Watts but he wanted too much money. So what. If they keep getting rid of bookers when they have contracts to fulfill, they'll end up spending a fortune. They met with Verne & Greg Gagne on Tuesday and with Ole Anderson as well. It doesn't look like it will get any better even with Dust gone. Supposedly, Jim Herd will keep his job. Only the Ultimate Warrior's Gods know why. WCW also met with Ric Flair this past week about coming back. They also talked about the booker job with him but from what I understand, as long as Herd is there, Ric won't come back. But I have this feeling Flair will return to WCW at some point.... Hey, WCW finally did something right. Cactus Jack starts up 8/5 at the WCW tapings. Has to be a blow to Pedicino's group. It's a problem he will always have unless he contracts the guys..... Eddie Gilbert is on booking sheets for WCW starting 8/5 and heard he would be a face (mistake) and work a program with Richard Morton. But in Philly at the Goodhart show, Eddie was telling people he is not going back. I don't believe anything Gilbert says anymore so we'll have to wait and see.... Speaking of the Goodhart show, only 600 people turned out on 8/3 to see the three gimmick matches between Cactus and Gilbert. Cactus won the falls count anywhere match. Gilbert took the stretcher bout. And Cactus took the cage bout via DQ when Doug Gilbert climbed the cage to interfere. Bam Bam Bigelow made the save. Also on the card saw the Fantastics, Tommy Rogers (didn't work much due to injury) and Bobby Fulton beat Stan Lane & Jim Cornette. Corny was in quite a bit and even gave Fulton a bodyslam. Was told he looked just like a wrestler. Maybe he can challenge the Lightning Kid for the lightweight belt.. Austin Idol went to a DDQ with Buddy Landell. And Luna beat Madusa Micelli via DQ. Next show is scheduled for 9/21 with Owen Hart billed although he will be in Germany so who knows. Abby vs. Origionl Sheik in a barbed wire match. Luna-Madusa in a hair bout. Hope Tom Nash likes bald women. And Terry Funk vs. a man who is a former champion and a current champion. That's how Joel announced it. It would be Flair but Joel is covering his butt as if it's not Flair it will be Jerry Lawler..... Jeff Bowdren is inviting all hardcore fans to his bachelor party that his buddies are throwing him in Ft. Lauderdale on 9/14. Jeff says this night will outdo a round at Mons Venus. He especially wants to hear from the Greensboro gang, Lance Levine, Mike Gunter, Brian Tramel

#A PIECE OF MY MIND#

by Evan Ginzburg

The Great American Bomb fizzled at the Meadowlands Arena on 7/3 and I'm about to give WCW a "Piece of My Mind" among my miserable memories of this evening:

- 1) Hearing the announcement (met by angry boos) that Flair had been stripped of the title.
- 2) Witnessing the WORST War Games ever (3 stars max-no juice- best guy ironically Sullivan who was Flair's replacement. One Man Gang slobbered around lost as did El Gigante whose involvement was limited: to say the least. Nikita looked mediocre at best and Sting and Luger were unimpressive.)
- 3) Having the terrible, terrible misfortune of seeing Tom Zenk wrestle in no less than two duds (vs. Diamond Studd and with Rick Steiner vs. Hardliners). This easily gives him the award for the WORST PERFORMANCE BY A NAME WRESTLER ON A MAJOR SHOW IN THE HISTORY OF WRESTLING. I'd like to give WCW a truth in advertising award for naming this stiff the Zzzzzzzzzzz Man; it's so sadly appropriate it borders on brilliant.

Rhodes family "fans" will be "delighted" to know that Dustin Rhodes was one of the handful of guys who impressed on the show, wrestling a decent **3/4 matc with Mortán. Rhodes seems to put out and does have talent. Unfortunately, thi match like all the others was rushed (the 9 match show clocked in at under 2 1/4 hours). Just what is the psychology here? Either they think the fans are morons and can't concentrate for more than a few moments (which for some people unfortunately is true, but I don't think it holds in the vast amount of cases), or they were as disgusted by the whole mess as we were and couldn't wai to BUST THE HELL OUT OF THERE. After watching Desperadoes, Freebirds, Diamond Studds, goofy bodyguards, lumberjacks, Arn Anderson playing straight man in a mixed tag match, and other atrocities which I've already mercifully blotted out of my memory, I was happy to leave early myself.

I may very well be the only sheet editor who can't stand 95% of what masquerades as wrestling today. This show was supposedly the best WCW (Wrestl Clearly Wretched) has to offer, and IT WAS NOT WORTH MY TIME. Nobody except for the tiniest Stingers walked out of there happy. As I'd like to think I have more on the ball than most 7 year olds, I doubt I'll be going back for quite a while. It's taken them a few years, but they've finally managed to KILL wrestling for even the hardest hardcore...

It's wonderful that you can get cups, cookies, toys, cards, and everything else imaginable bearing the likenesses of your favorite mutant anabolic wonder. Now if they only remember to put on some good wrestling we'll have something again.

Only bright spot of the evening was meeting AR & WT&N readers Marilyn Rundle and Andy King (who was sporting the official clothing line of the kay fabe world- a Torch T-Shirt and "AR" cap!) In recent years I've gotten more enjoyment out of socializing at the matches than the "action" itself.

Looking forward to catching some indies so I can have something happy to report for you. Meanwhile, if you want to check out when wrestling WAS grea read this month's Wrestling-Then & Now (\$1.25 to yours truly at P.O. Box 471, Oakland Gardens Station, Flushing, NY 11364, or \$12.00 a year.) featuring an interview with Fabulous Kangaroo Al Costello.-

Meanwhile, pray for the Joel Goodhart's of the world. They are our only hope left...

#IWF-ROUND 2#

The International Wrestling Federation held their second TV tapings on Saturday, July 27th at Universal Studios-Florida. Since I did the ring announc- ing for the shows, I didn't have a chance to jot down notes so most of this is from memory. I'll give the highlights (or lowlights) from each taping. 1st Hour: During a match between Hollywood Rick Diamond and Caribbean Kid, Diamond goes to punch Kid whm is up against the ringpost. Kid moves and Rick smacks his hand on the post. Diamond ordered the bout stopped because he "broke his hand". Later in the taping they'll show a segment that was filmed at the park where Rick is prescribed a black glove from Nurse Goodbody. (Yes fans, the same Nurse Goodbody that we all saw in Tampa. The red haired one.) Rick will do well with the gimmick.....During a match between Thunder & Lightning vs. Dennis Allen & Nuke Ass Bob, The Heartbreakers and Champagne Cain hit the ring and Big Till throws powder in Thunder's eyes while he has an abdominal stretch locked on. Great heat on Breakers and Cain. This will be the number 1 feud in the IWF.....In the best match of the whole taping, the Dynamite Express & Lou Perez go to a double DQ with Cliff Anderson & the Bad Boys in a ***1/4 match. I could watch the Dynamites and Bad Boys work all day.....2nd Hour: During a' Chubby Mo Cool win, Nasty Ronnie and his charge The Possessor (Ned Brady's new gimmick.) come to scout Chubby.....Heartbreakers non title bout with Caribbean Kid & Crocodile McKenzie ends when Till catches Kid (impressive) off the top rope and Thunder & Lightning come down and pull Till's legs out and hold it

LETTERS TO "AR"

WWF

I don't know about you but I sure am glad that after viewing this past week's Prime Time Wrestling that I can be assured of drug free sports entertainment that my family and I can be proud of. Although these comments sound sincere, I couldn't help but notice that they followed a Dino Bravo match.

Ron Gallagher
Limestone, ME

Flair

When I was a younger child I had two heroes, Mark Spitz and Ric Flair. And for over thirteen years now I've been waiting to say Ric Flair and I have something in common. Well, it's finally happened. I've been telling my family, friends, and neighbors. A smile and a tear showed on my mother's face when I told her that the greatest wrestler today and I share a common bond. The Nature Boy and I, a humble, modest, quiet fan are both...unemployed. YES! I have been searching unemployment offices statewide for this God of wrestling to no avail. But that's okay. I know he's out there. As far as the Baltimore Bash goes, my mother always said, "If you don't have anything nice to say, don't say anything at all." So.....

K.C. O'Connor
Greensboro, NC

Cycle Sluts From Hell?

While on our Baltimore vacation we went to the Bash, took in the TV tapings the following night in Salisbury, and saw the group Cycle Sluts From Hell at this really cool metal bar called Hammerjacks. By far, the best event of the three was Cycle Sluts. Guess that tells you something about WCW these days, eh? (Mind you, Cycle Sluts were amazing.)

Jeff Zinger & J.Z. Travis
Woodstock, ONT

IWF

I really don't understand all the flack you are taking from some of your peers by getting actively involved in the IWF. Who wouldn't get into a business that they love if they had the opportunity? Sounds like a twinge of envy to me. Whether or not you become a carnival barker for Eddy Mansfield remains to be seen, but it's too early to come to that conclusion. I have been one of Eddy's staunchest defenders since the 20/20 expose. He had the guts to tell it like it was when everybody from Lou Thesz on down was unwittingly exposing the business through misguided denial. Anybody who saw Eddy confront him on Stanley Siegal's "America Talks Back" show a few years ago saw Thesz for what he really is. When he couldn't take the heat, he ran and hid like a whining child. I think Eddy is doing everything right so far when other federations are committing financial suicide. Some people in the business obviously don't know what they are doing, but Mansfield has the background to do it right. Sure, he's no angel, but this is the wrong business for choir boys. I give you credit for latching on with a winner.

Vic Stanley
Lafayette, IN

There are many good bulletins and newsletters on the market with humor, results, satire, opinion, information etc. However, not all maintain a set of certain standards and quality content. Yours always has been, and still is a class act and quality bulletin.

The columns are always good and interesting. My personal favorite reading is "Ramblings". I would be remiss if I didn't say that Mike Terry's column in Volume III, Issue 19, was by far his best ever in my opinion.

A few comments on your IWF involvement. You have earned a reputation for integrity and fair play. I would hope, since the beginning, that comments in "Letters To 'AR'" concerning any bias or shilling, were written out of care for you. I would not even question such with you. I think the readers and subscribers should feel fortunate to have an "in" for information on an indie. (I get these programs here on my satellite dish.) My concern would be in the event you get too involved and dropped "Arena Report". (Heaven forbid). So the IWF is an opportunity so go for it.

Greg Miller
Hamilton, ONT

IT'S MY 2-CENTS

by Mike Terry

My biggest concern about writing this column is the negativity that often dominates it. I fear I'm too whiny, too nitpicky, too critical. I really make an effort to find things to compliment to provide balance. This month, that's easy. I aim my congratulations at the Global Wrestling Federation. Many of my peers are criticizing the GWF's product, but I'm satisfied. It's a new perspective; some new faces. I like the tournament & think it's likely to hook the audience and hopefully goose the ratings. The most impressive aspect of the GWF is Scott Hudson. Don't let this go to your head, Scott, although it appears not too much sticks up there anyway. It's my impression that Scott doesn't have extensive broadcasting experience which makes his performance at this point particularly notable. Scott may lack polish here & there, but with all the practice he's getting, the rough edges should soon be smoothed out. His humor reminds me of Gene Okerlund with 2 differences--Scott's is original & funny. His is a bright, refreshing perspective & he really comes up with some clever lines. Keep up the good work, Scott. You're a real asset to the GWF. I hope they pay you accordingly. I predict a bright future in this business.

Wow--an entire paragraph of positiveness! Now let the barbs begin: Let's keep it on the record, gang, that virtually the first thing out of Joe Pedocino's mouth when he introduced the first show was: "Global is in operation around the world and has stars around the world. Global is one of the largest wrestling organizations in the world." So the whole premise of the promotion is based on misrepresentation of the product. Defend it if you will, but the bottom line is--the fan's man--Joe Pedocino is in the same position now as Vince McMahon, Jim Herd, Jerry Jarret, etc. The point is-- newsletter editors should not lose their objectivity just because Joe is forthcoming with interviews & information.....On Joe's news segment, why was Hulk Hogan's Special Olympics endeavor considered worthy of coverage, but the Zahorian steroid trial wasn't?.....I wish Joe would delete the phrase "I'm in shock" from his delivery.....Boni Blackstone wins in this month's Best Bar Hair category. If you hang out in clubs, you'll appreciate that one.....When Skandor Akbar finally appears as "The Boss," I sure hope Joe can find the money to buy him a new caftan. That striped thing must be pretty rank by now.

Is Paul E. really that good of a color commentator, or have we just been too long without Jesse Ventura and Jim Cornette?.....It's nice to see WCW finally explaining the Yellow Dog storyline 2 months after introducing him.....Stan Hansen's disappeared from the WCW top 10. Does this mean he won't return?.....Lame Retread Gimmick of the Month: Randy Rhodes.....If Grizzly Smith is to continue to be used as spokesperson for WCW, can't we get him a different first name?.....Check out the look on Kerry Von Erich's face when he takes off his ring jacket. He looks to be enjoying the adulation of the fans just a little too much.

Quotes of the month: David Letterman: "John Tesh doing Wimbledon for NBC is like Vince McMahon doing World Series play-by-play." Bobby Heenan after Sherri stripped away the Million Dollar Man's pants: "Drop the linen and keep on grinnin'." Gorilla Monsoon & Heenan closing "Challenge:" Gorilla: "For the Anvil and the Weasel, this is the Gorilla, sayin' so long everybody." Heenan: "What is this, Wild Kingdom?"

Am I the only one who wonders why commentators try to make us believe that a wrestler noted for his work as part of a tag team will have trouble competing as a single? Does this make sense? Are these wrestlers supposed to be too stupid to make the transition?

Jim Ross' endless hyping of his 900 number gripes me. It seems that's become more important than the matches he's commentating on. Do people really buy this bullshit that the hotline contains things that would cost him his job if he said them on TV? Some probably do. Personally, I'm pissed when he teases us this way. Get real, Rossi. On last Sunday's Main Event, the epitome of tackiness: Missy Hyatt says she saw a wrestler out on the town with someone he shouldn't have been with & she would reveal his name on her hotline.

Maalox Moments: any appearance by the Boston Bad Boy on IWWCW and WCW referee Bill Alfonso bustin' a move with P.N. News.....When Colonel Mustafa marches into the arena, he looks like he's doing the Bushwacker bounce.

Until next month, oh hush, I'm Mike Terry and I'm a baaaaad man.

BASICALLY- HULK WAS KAY FABING US ALL

Couldn't you just tell Hogan was nervous for the biggest interview of his life. Over and over repeating, "basically," "I don't want to make inferences," etc. on Arsenio on July 16. This followed complete bullshit by Vince talking about his great steroid testing program on Prime Time the night before. C'mon- it is alleged that Vince himself has been shooting up and parading around his staff. It is near implication that he owns a body building group as well as a wrestling one. And didn't you just love Hogan trying to infer he was big as a boy, and that he was a great softball player. We all know he's admitted years before he was fat, and out of shape as a nerdy kid who was mediocre at best. I guess these two have been lying on worked interviews for so many years it was just practise for this important moment currently. And re: human growth hormone-even shill Arsenio Hall wasn't buying the bullshit. Everyone could see and hear that Hulk was not being honest. Please guys- you're friggin' guilty. Change the promotion and get rid of the roids, or stop bullshitting us. I thought Hogan nearly said, "next time I wrestle if the guy pounding on me is bigger'n me, you can bet he's on steroids." That's what it sounded like, but wasn't. This isn't a two-lane highway, you can't have it both ways like America's politicians. So let's stop the bullshit, please. You can't fool us, you two! And we'll make sure you can't fool the marks.

Love the honesty on the other hand, exhibited by Pedicino's Global. When they talked about Budro Landel- they said he'd irritated and angered the heads at most every wrestling organization he's worked for. Unlike Unca's Vince and Terry, that's true. Also heard at the 3rd set of tapings he might've pissed off the GWF people one too many times. C'mon Buddy- get it together! Can you imagine the greediness of Landel, Rogers, Scotty Levy and Cactus Jack as a unit there. I really enjoy Global educating everyone each day on the results of the tourney from previous days. And Joe Pedi-c-note came thru in having not only Lightning Kid win the Junior Tourney, but also having the recently healed Jerry Lynn there. Rip Rogers told me he told both when the place and time their high spots. He, like Landel is a true genius of the old school of matches we oldtimers so dearly love. And Steve Yowe of Alhambra- contact me about doing the ultimate complete WWA title picture for WT and Now.

California is rejoicing as on August 1 Sports Channel America acquires Pacific Sports Network. SC was available on fewer than 40% of Calif. channels- now it is available on 80% so Abram's UWF(strangely, now the ONLY current UWF) will be seen in more homes with an expanded PPV network for his next try-provided the rumors on Williams starting with Titan aren't true-hmmm, Flair and Dr. Death to Titan? That would be a good, but unreasonable angle for McMahon-having Flair come in with the NWA belt, saying he's not even in OUR promotion ala the Original Midnight Express. Flair seems to have it going for him either way, what with WCW attorneys conceding he was entitled to the 700 figure, and not in the 3's per annum. Heard Goodhart pissed off Dick Brower, who now may work for Coraluzzo instead. Looking old and frail now, the Bulldog used to be a great monster ala Sheik, Abby, Firpo in the Ohio-Detroit-Toronto 60's and 70's periods. Debbie Malenko/Drake to return to the U.S. for a short doctor's appt in September. She might need a minor operation on her torn-off pinkie that's still bothering her. Either way she'll return right back for another 6 months with AJPW after some appearances in Germany with Penelope Paradise!

OK, I'll do the few criticism's of Eddie Mansfield's IWF and I repeat I have nothing to do with them. Let's get right to the negs- Kevin Kelley is green as shi- as an announcer. Even Chris Cruise wasn't as repetitive on his very first appearances. He does better casual without the tux doing interview spots, where I'd keep him. Like our own Scott Hudson, he needs to stop being nervous. After Chubby Moe Dee(who is supposed to "shake and bake"), KK proceeded to call every face high spot an incident of "shaking and baking" even when the participants weren't black-despite CL trying to get him to stop. Squared circle, pandemonium, wow, these guys are really great, they're not wrestling-they don't care about titles, pandemonium, I tell you what... is about his verbal extent. CL needs to follow Herb and Joe's lead by taking himself off color as well. How about Lemieux and Klon doing it instead? Ron could do two jobs and save them money. The lighting is no worse than WCW and some of the interview segment-angles are better! It's nice they're asking for comments like Joe's Global is- but the continued ads plugging the 1-900 are too numerous. Thor should have his mouth kept shut - he sucks on interviews. Am I being critical-yes. I am using the same scrutiny that we use with the big boys- and I think we owe it to Pedicino (affectionately known to me as Pedi-c-note since he got all the dough together) and Mansfield to label them as majors and not independents. They certainly are fresher and more of what we want than the WCW corpse. Herd that Flair might be back as WCW attorneys acknowledged the \$750,000 now as fair. Cliff Anderson is okay as an Arn-tv champ clone, but he's no Arn on interviews. And if I hear anyone say, "the would be a main event anywhere in the world," I'll Heimlich myself. Doctors can do that-not just John Belushi and Liz Taylor could. What I like are the recaps of results at the end, and the very unique idea the crossover involvement with the theme park and characters like Blues and Marx Brothers. Why hasn't anyone else come up with this idea before?! Give EM bigtime credit here. The possibilities of having interviews near characters and thrill rides are endless. Mondo Kleen near King Kong was fun. And Marc Laurenidis looks better than when we were in Japan together. Herb(is there any other?) says he's got Spivey(glad someone gave this gent some work after his testimony led to ridiculous problems with WCW and AJPW) that he's doing an L.A. house show this fall and that he's talking serious with Flair. I only believe the first one. L.A. reader Carol Sabulo says she was on a plane with Vince(yes, Bince) and that he was very kind to her signing her copy of W. World and actually talking to her. Well, sometimes he's not a monster- but WCW's rxn to Wrestling World is monstrous- and I apologize for the error in the i.d. on the AJPW ladies in my Japan article in the Sept W. World- should be Minami and Bat instead of what they wrote- also someone messed up again like Steve Beaverly listing Terry Funk as talking thru his shoe to both Mazurki and Papa Funk. I was the first to tell Steve that Terry only "talked" with Mazurki. Thanks to Stately for helping make my World articles more for the marks, since I no longer can write in that style. Hey, was I too critical of our friend, Scott Hudson? We are proud of you! Scotty tried, despite the May 19th weather in getting us to the Nurse Goodbody's prior to Superbrawl-Mons Venus made up for lack of my-er-medical assistants w/o underpants. And Teresa DeMarie-ster- who I always address as the "Tuckster"- we gotta get steroids out of wrestling-er at least out of Piper's body even if his movie celebrity is waning. Doncha remember him as the Nazi squash victim in the '76 movie, "The One and Only" with the Fonzi! No roids then since Winkler was such a skinny puppy-hey, that's a band's name!

Capital Centre (WWF)

Landover, MD

July 19, 1991

Correspondent: Gerald Johnson

1) Berzerker hot shotted Koko Ware. F 2) Jim Neidhart (sub for Jake) beat Earthquake after he hit him with Andre's cane. D 3) Warlord and Kerry Von Erich went to a double count out in a double F match. 4) Nasty Boys and The Rockers went to a double DQ. C 5) I.R.S. used the ropes to pin Greg Valentine. D 6) Bushwhackers & Virgil over Orient Express and Fuji when Virgil pinned Tanaka. C 7) Ultimate Warrior beat Undertaker in a body bag match. Fans were going crazy when Taker was stuffing Warrior in bag before the comeback. C They also did a live Barber Shop with Sherri and Brutus cut some hair that turned out to be a wig. ATT: 5,000

SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

RANDOM THOUGHTS: In the absence of any meaningful activity involving professional wrestling in Georgia over the past two weeks, please allow me to take a peek at what is really going in the sport. "Under the Dressing Room" we'll call it..The rumors abound that Dusty Rhodes remains on the payroll of Vincent K. McMahon while booking the WCW promotion. Whether one believes this or not (I do not), the fact that the booking in WCW is so horrific and the decisions made at the executive level so ill-informed so as to give rise to the rumor that Dusty remains on the Titan dole speaks volumes about the state of what is left of the NWA..Ron Lemieux's interview with Eddy Mansfield was very interesting. Whether the IWF succeeds or bombs, I admire Mansfield for getting a promotion off and running considering what the business thought of him following his revelations on "20/20"..The actions of Vince McMahon and Hulk Hogan in the wake of the Zahorian trial are despicable. Hogan's appearance on "The Arsenio Hall Show" (which, incidentally, I cannot stand. The guy is simply not funny.) was the ultimate work. No one, other than the densest of mizzarks beleived him. McMahon's barring of the legit wrestling media at his "press conference" as enlightening. Assume for a time that Vince allowed Dave Meltzer into the press conference area and the first question he asked was "Mr. McMahon, why do you insist on continually denying and use of anabolic steroids and/or human growth hormones by the wrestlers and the bodybuilders in your employ when it is quite obvious to anyone familiar with the use of those enhancers that many of your employees are, how they say, juiced up out of their gourd?" Do you really think that McMahon would break down in tears and say, "You got me there, Dave. It's true! Their all juicing and they will all die within 10 years if they do not quit! There, I said it!?" Of course not. He would have either: A) Evaded the issue and/or the question, or B) Lied through his lilly-white teeth and made Dave look like a total idiot. The absence of the wrestling media at McMahon's "press conference" did not in any way detract from the information that was provided. It merely served to prevent more lies from being told..If you have the opportunity, please check out the July 7, 1991, issue of "Baseball Weekly", the Wrestling magazine from Japan. The very first picture inside is a close-up the Asaka/Goto match from FMW where Asaka bladed (macheted?) his forearm through the muscle to the bone! After seeing it, you will never pine for more juice in wrestling again. This is the grossest photograph of wrestling that I have ever seen, bar none. Onita is one sick puppy..Although it has not come up yet, please do not feel that I will lose my objectivity in this column due to my employment with the GWF. If something in the GWF sucks (i.e. the workrate in the first two rounds of the TV tournament, Terry Daniels not cooperating with Billy Black, my over use of the word "great" and monstrous overplaying of the importance of a match, etc.) I will tell it. When it comes to "Arena Report", I am just a columnist, NOT a shiller for the GWF..I still cannot get over Wade Keller's interview with Cowboy Bill Watts in the recent issue of "Pro-Wrestling Torch". Thank God Watts is still around and cares enough about the wrestling business to get so fired up when he sees the sport being led down that primrose path. Thanks, Cowboy..Jim Ross' radio show on the floundering WSB-AM (they most recently lost their position as the flagship of the Atlanta Braves radio network to WGST-AM) is a mixed bag. Ross does a good job with the callers, however, unless a call is about WCW or can in some way be turned into a WCW question, the call is screened out. A question about a wrestler not in WCW will be answered with adiscussion of that wrestlers stint in WCW (if there was one) or will simply not be aired. A more objective look at wrestling with WCW not being the sun that the wrestling world revolves around would be much better.. Later on..

THE LAST WORD...

from 1986's "UNEXPLAINED SNIGLETS
OF THE UNIVERSE"

LEXPLEXED

(leks' plekst)

adj. Unable to find the correct spelling for a word
in the dictionary because you don't know how to
spell it.

Georgia Auction Barn (Georgia All-Star) Alpharetta, GA July 28, 1991
Correspondents: Greg Yarman & Gary Lynch

1) Johnny Dare beat Mike Roberts who usually works security for this group. Weighs about 150. 2) Steel over Damien Rogers. Steel is Fabian's (Handsome Stranger in GWF) brother. 3) Big Bully Busich beat Farm Boy Ellis. Busich was accompanied to the ring by Sid Vicious and Downtown Bruno. Now you know how Bruno got into Titan. Sid and Busich are good friends. Now you know how Bully got into Titan. 4) Brute Force defeated Festus & Steven Young. 5) Steve "The Brawler" Lawler beat Fabian in a loser leave town match. The ref was knocked out of the ring and Lawler used a chair to knock Fabian out and get the win. ATT: 75

down while the ref counts three. My big blunder of the night heard me announce Croc & Kid as new tag champs. What a mark.....Rick Diamond debuted with the black glove and knocked out Terry Davis for the win.....Lou Perez beat Possessor via DQ as Lou went after Ronnie but Cliff Anderson jumped him from behind. Chubby Mo Cool madethe save....They did the first of a few angles with Thor and Mondo Kleen seeting up their feud. That's one match I can wait for..... Possessor jumped Chubby during a ringside interview and choked him with a chain. 3rd Hour: They opened the show saying the tape where the Heartbreakers lost the bout to Croc & Kid was erased and they accused the heels of doing it. The angle seems to be that since they lost they have to give Thunder & Lightning a title shot. I think that premise needs to be explained to me....Stomper debuts doing a Mongolian gimmick. A rookie who looks real good. But he needs a better finish. I know stomping on the head goes with the gimmick but unless he has real jacked up boots, it doesn't look good.....Bad Boys won via pinfall over McKenzie & Caribbean buut decision was reversed when they kept giving the Bad Boy Bash to them. Dynamite Express made the save.....Thunder & Lightning did an interview where they asked fans to send in tapes of the match showing Breakers losing.....I'll review hours 4 and 5 next issue but the heat for some of these guys, especially T & L, Heartbreakers & Cain, Chubby Mo Cool, Cliff Anderson, & Possessor was unreal. As Klon said, if they can get this heat from tourists, imagine what a wrestling crowd would do.

WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

Saturday, August 3, 1991

Orlando Arena

Orlando, FL

Opening Match

Ricky Steamboat beat Paul Roma in 11:07. It was good once they started working. This is the first time I saw the Dragon gimmick live. How come no one ever mentioned how Ricky does the fire. Here in Orlando, some guy gave him a cup at ringside and Steamer put something in his mouth and did the fire. Roma missed a charge in the corner and Rick rolled him up. **

Tag Team Match

Marty Jannetty & Shane Douglas over Orient Express in 17:53. Bruce Grummert's fave ring announcer Mike McGuirk graced O-Town with her presence to-night. She gaffed when she announced "Shaun Michaels & Marty Jannetty, The Rockers". It was Shane Douglas subbing for Shaun since he had knee surgery and will be out four months. When Shane came in the ring he looked at her and said, "What's going on?". She just shrugged. I thought it was a new way to handle no shows. Just announce the guy anyway and hope the fans don't notice it's someone else. It almost worked here. You wouldn't believe the argument going on behind me whether or not Shane was Michaels. Match was all action. Tanaka pound for pound is one of the best in the States. Didn't miss Michaels much as Shane worked great. When they sat down for one minute in a headlock (real only rest for the whole time) some guy chanted boring. If he thought this was boring I bet he took a siesta later in the show. End came as Pat pushed Marty into the ropes and Kato went to hit Jannetty but clipped Tanaka and the pin was made. I saw the first evidence of the steroid testing working. Tanaka isn't as big as he use to be. ***3/4

3rd Match

Davey Boy Smith pinned Typhoon in 8:07. Does the whiff ever look at their booking sheets from the previous card? Typhoon was a sub for Perfect who still is suffering from a bad back. The Hennig-Bulldog bout was billed as a return match but their first one here last month didn't take place either. You know who took Hennig's place last month? Your right if you said Typhoon and you get a free trip to the Bruise Cruise with JYD, Tommy Rich, and P.U. News. They never made an announcement concerning Hennig. Davey Boy tried to roll up Tugger after a missed charge but the big lug fell on top of Bulldog and when Davey got free, he just layed on top of him. Second example of successful threat of steroid testing: Davey Boy's right thigh muscle is $\frac{1}{4}$ of an inch smaller than it was. -**

Main Event-Body Bag Match

Ultimate Warrior bagged Undertaker in 16:03. Horrible. Their bout last month was so much better than this. After 3 clothsslines and three splashes, Warrior stuffs Callous in the bag. Afterwards, Paul Bearer throws ashes in Warriors face and Taker toombstones him into a chair and leaves him laying. Boss Man comes out to help Warrior. Example three of threat of steroid testing working: Warrior lost some weight. Oh, never mind. He was just missing ten tassles from his arm band. Dud

5th Match

Greg Valentine beat Col. Mustafa in 6:42. Greg was a sub for Duggan. After the Col. loaded his boot, he kicked Greg in the stomach and amateur rolled

him but Greg lifted his shoulders off while Sheik's were still on the canvas. McGuirk had no clue. She announced Sheik as the winner until Joey Morrella told her the verdict. -*

6th Match

The Mountie beat Big Boss Man in 7:05 when he shot him with the zapper. This one had a silencer on it. That's what one guy behind me said when there was no sound effects from the thing. Unreal. Morella took the bump of the night. After he took the nightstick and zapper away to start the bout, he jumped through the roped to give them to the timekeeper but he forgot to land on his feet as he did a bellyflop on the mat. * $\frac{1}{4}$

7th Match

Barbarian beat Jim Powers with a boot to the face in 4:51. Why they wasted my time, I don't know. Dud

WWF Tag Team Championship

Legion of Doom over the Nasty Boys via count out in 5:10. Good action but way too short. They've already done the count out finish here before where Nasties just walk back to the dressing room. I guess they figure all of central Florida has had lobotomys. Hawk looked 100% coming off his injury. ** $\frac{1}{2}$

NOTES

Crowd was 4,300 which was a drop off from last show....They return with Warrior-Undertaker in a casket match on October 7 so scrap the thought that Warrior will turn heel at Summer Scam. I guess we can just look forward to seeing Slaughter turn. Whopeeee....Overall not a bad show.

(continued from page 3)

Jeff Zinger, Mike Lano, Scott Hudson (naaaah, he's married.), and John McAdam. Klon and myself will be making the trek. Don't miss it. Be theeeere. Jeff's number is (305)370-7450....Titan tapings in Worcester and Portland on 7/29 and 7/30 saw the Summer Slam Showdown taped for USA which will air on 8/19. Mathews taped saw Hogan beat Slaughter on a dq and after, all three heels beat on Hulk until Sid made the save. Bret Hart beat Barbarian, Hawk downed Brian Knobbs. In a six man, the Orient Express (Tanaka, Kato, and Sato) lost to Kerry Von Erich, Davey Boy Smith, and Ricky Steamboat. In other news at the tapings: Big Bully Nick Busich debuted managed by Downtown Bruno who was called Henry Herman and they made Pee Wee jokes at him. I bet Vince makes Bruno a great act like he did Pringle. Vic Steamboat had a tryout as Jesse Bolt. Phil Apollo appeared doing a job for Valentine. Barry Darsow (Smash Demolition) was unveiled as the Repo Man which is the gimmick stolen from Ned Brady of the IWF. A lot of people think Jake will be turning heel. Though I think it would be a good move, I don't see the same thing....Did you catch Boss Man foaming at the mouth for the angle they shot on Prime Time with Mountie zapping him in the maintenance room? Vince is going hardcore....International Pro Wrestling taped at MGM studios here in Orlando on 7/29. Bill Ash ran the show and they taped 2 hours with 550 fans in attendance for both tapings. Some of the guys on the show were Paul Orndorff, Wendall Cooley, Brian Blair, Boris Zhukov, the Batten Twins, and Scott Armstrong. Bob Armstrong and Mike Jackson did the commentary. A lot of Alabama flavor in that cast. Was told I didn't miss much (had heard rumblings about it at the IWF tapings the Sat. prior but as of Friday the show wasn't supposed to happen.) as it wasn't that hot. They supposedly taped for a syndie package but they have no outlets yet. It was a one time shot and they won't be back....Have a feeling the UWF will be out of business before long. Abrams guys are all working everywhere else.... One newsletter that I wish would go to a more frequent schedule is Pro Wrestling Sushi. Editor Jeff Mullins just came out with issue #36 and is by far, one of his best. I enjoy the format in this issue the best. Some serious opinions mixed with some hilarious vignettes. And a great host of columnists. If you haven't tried it, do so. Write Jeff at P.O. Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158. The cost is \$1.50 per issue....Speaking of Mr. Mullins, by the way Jeff. The "news" you didn't think I should print was never planned to be printed. It wasn't part of the Mansfield interview, but rather something said late one night at a bar during the premiere of the IWF show. As far as your contact saying it wasn't true, how can you believe that opinion is objective from that certain person? I have better sense than to print that kind of stuff. Your right, leave it for The Globe....Now all my subscribers want to hang me for wetting their appetite. Sorry Charlie, no can tell....I want to thank all those correspondents who sent in reports for this ish. Unfortunately I could not fit them all in. Please!!!, do not let this discourage you from sending in reports. This is the first time in three years that I've had to bump some reports but I thought the "Ramblings" section would be more enjoyable. The Mansfield interview took up more space than expected! At this time I'd also like to give a hearty thumbs up to my entire staff here at "AR". They do a tremendous job and they never disappoint with their material. Thanks Evan, Scott, Klon, Marianne, Mike, hey, and you too Doc Lano. See yaaaaaa!